

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3901

ANSWERED ON:08.12.2016

Upgradation of Major Ports

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Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any scheme for upgradation of all the major ports into world class ports and if so, the details thereof along with the measures being taken by the Government in this regard, port-wise;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to develop new ports during 2016-17 and if so, the details and the present status thereof, State-wise including Gujarat;
- (c) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the Government of Kerala for upgradation of Azhikkal port; and
- (d) if so, the details and the present status thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING

(SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA)

(a) Expansion, modernization and upgradation of Major Ports in the Country is a continuing process with a view to keep the ports abreast with new technologies and to meet their commercial requirements. The process inter-alia involves construction of new berths and terminals, mechanization of existing berth and terminals, capital dredging for deepening of drafts for attracting large vessels in port channels, road and rail connectivity etc.

The operational efficiency of Major Ports continues to improve as a result of modernization, mechanization, acquiring of latest technology and deepening of drafts etc. In 2015, an international benchmarking consultants conducted a study of Major Ports. The study has recommended 116 initiatives for various Major Ports to enhance their efficiency & productivity to international benchmarks. Of the 116 initiatives, 62 have already been implemented and the remaining initiatives will be implemented by 2019. Implementation of these initiatives would improve the efficiency & productivity of the Major Ports so as to be competitive with some of the leading international ports.

(b) Six Potential New Port Locations have been identified under Sagarmala Programme, namely Vadhavan (Maharashtra), Sagar Island (West Bengal), Paradip Outer Harbour (Odisha), Enayam (Tamil Nadu), Sirkazhi (Tamil Nadu) and Belekeri (Karnataka). No locations has been identified in Gujarat. The said sites are under preliminary stages of examination and no timelines have yet been identified.

(c)&(d):Kerala Government has approached this Ministry for providing funds for the development of Azhikkal Port. Under Sagarmala program of Govt. of India. The matter in this regard is under correspondence with the State Govt.
